

Serial No.: 10/044,801  
Conf. No.: 4734

- 11 -

Art Unit: 1755

**REMARKS**

This is in response to the Office Action mailed January 15, 2004, from the U.S. Patent Office.

This response has been filed to correct a formality deficiency in the amendment mailed by the Applicants on October 30, 2003, relating to the underlining of new claims 696 and 697. This amendment includes all claim amendments made in the amendment of October 30, 2003, with corrective underlining of new claims 696 and 697.

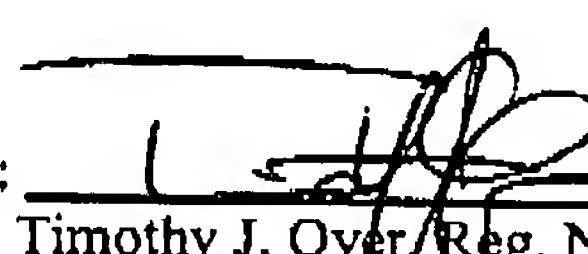
It is believed that this amendment positions all claims in proper form. The Applicants will respond, in due course, to the substantive issues raised in the Office Action of January 15, 2004.

If, for any reason, the Examiner is of the opinion that a telephone conversation with the Applicants' representative would expedite prosecution, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned at (617)573-7851.

**CONCLUSION**

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,

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